THE
Theatrical Observer:
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 160. Tuesday, May 21, 1822. Price 1d.

COVENT GARDEN.

THERE was a very good house, last night. *The Law of Java*, met with that moderate applause which its general character alone merits. Mr. CHAPMAN is elevated to the Javanese throne, vice Mr. ABBOTT. The new sovereign does not wag his foot with the dignity of the late one; and he has the advantage of being more worthy the detestation of the ladies of his harem in all other respects. Really, the last scene of this piece is very absurd—an Emperor is bullied to his face, and the whole of the persons round his throne turn their backs on him, when he struts out with his half-dozen archers, leaving the remainder of the party to sing and be merry in his audience chamber! We confess we have not agreed with some of the daily Journals, nor with that amiable paper *The John Bull*, in our opinion of *The Law of Java*; for we are not inclined to suppress our real sentiments to flatter any man, however much we have admired his general talents. This piece, every time we see it, makes us melancholy, for we are thereby reminded of the *decay* incident to human nature, and led to apply the observation to the author. If Mr. COLMAN does not redeem his dramatic credit by presenting us with a regular play that may be placed near his *Poor Gentleman*, or his *Heir at Law*, &c. we must presume his wit to be defunct, and only look for the epitaph recording its existence.

It is said that the KING when he visited this theatre, last week, apologised to Mr. FAWCETT for having gone to Drury Lane theatre on his benefit night, by which he feared he had done him an injury. We have not learnt Mr. Fawcett's reply; but we believe he was able to give a very satisfactory one to his Majesty.

Mr. YOUNG takes his BENEFIT to-night. The annexed play-bill of Covent Garden will speak for the evening's attractions: but we may be allowed to say, that if a gentleman, a scholar, a man of superior intellect, an eminent tragedian, merits the substantial attentions of the public, then so does Mr. Young.

DRURY LANE.

LAST night, Mr. COOPER and Mr. KNIGHT took their joint benefit at this House. The chief attraction of the evening, was Mr. KEAN's personation of CARDINAL WOLSEY in "Henry the Eighth." This was a character Mr. KEMBLE gave great dignity and interest to; but it appears to us that it does not lie in Mr. KEAN's power to give it the *same* effect. He marks the part with *great talent* on various occasions, but the imagination will not fully accept him as the lofty Wolsey, it has pictured over the closet perusal of the play. The House was brilliantly attended.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

MR. YOUNG'S NIGHT.

This Evening will be performed Shakespeare's Tragedy of

KING JOHN.

John, King of England, Mr. YOUNG,
Prince Henry, Master PARSLOE,
Earl of Pembroke, Mr. MEARS,
Earl of Essex, Mr. HORREBOW,
Earl of Salisbury, Mr. CONNOR,
Hubert, *(for this night only)* Mr. MACREADY,
Faulconbridge, Mr. C. KEMBLE,
Robert Faulconbridge, Mr. PARSLOE,
English Herald, Mr. Jefferies, Gurney, Mr. Chapman,
Executioners, Messrs. Norrie and Banks.
English Knights, Messrs. Batt, Sutton, and Thurston.
Phillip, King of France, Mr. EGERTON,
Lewis, the Dauphin, Mr. ABBOTT,
Prince Arthur, Miss Boden, Chatillon, Mr. Claremont,
Archduke of Austria, Mr. COMER,
Cardinal Pandulph, Mr. CHAPMAN,
French Herald, Mr. HUNT,
Citizens of Angiers, Messrs. Atkins, Collett, Vedy,
French Knights, Messrs. Austin, Grant, &c.
Queen Elinor, Mrs. VINING,
The Lady Constance, Mrs. FAUCIT,
Blanch, of Castile, Miss FOOTE,
Lady Faulconbridge, Mrs. STERLING.

To which will be added the Opera of

Inkle and Yarico.

Inkle, Mr. YOUNG, who will, with Miss M. TREE, sing the Original Duetto, "*O say, simple Maid,*"
Sir Christopher Curry, Mr. W. FARREN, Medium, Mr. CHAPMAN
Captain Campley, Mr. PYNE,
Trudge, Mr. LISTON, Planters, Messrs. Atkins and Mears,
Mate, Mr. King, Waiter, Mr. Crumpton.
Yarico, Miss M. TREE,
Narcissa, Miss LOVE, Patty, Mrs. GIBBS.
Wowski, Miss STEPHENS.

To-morrow, Julius Cæsar

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane,

FOR THE BENEFIT OF MISS TIDSWELL.

This Evening will be performed, the Comedy of

THE WONDER

A Woman Keeps a Secret.

Don Lopez, Mr. HUGHES, Don Pedro, Mr. GATTIE,
Don Felix, (first time) Mr. KEAN,
Frederick, Mr. BARNARD, Colonel Briton, Mr. COOPER,
Lissardo, Mr. HARLEY,
Gibby, Mr. THOMPSON, Alguazil, Mr. WILLMOTT,
Vasquez, Mr. WEBSTER,
English Soldier, Mr. READ, Servant, Mr. TURNOUR,
Donna Violante, Mrs. GLOVER,
Donna Isabella, Miss SMITHSON, Inis, Mrs. ORGER,
Flora, Miss COPELAND.

At the end of the Comedy,

Miss TIDSWELL will attempt to take a respectful leave.

After which,

A VOCAL CONCERT,

Principal Performers. Signor AMBROGETTI and Mr. BRAHAM. Mr. Braham will sing—Robin Adair. Mr. Harley, (by desire]—The Nightingale Club. Mr. T. Cooke and Miss Cubitt, Duet—Time has not thinn'd my flowing hair. Mr. Fitzwilliam—Paddy Carey. Mr. G. Smith—The Wolf. Madame Vestris—a favorite song. Miss Forde—The Echo Song. Mrs. Bland and Miss Povey, Duet—Ye Banks and Braes.

A Pas Seul, by Miss TREE.

And the favorite Song, called "*Richard and Betty at Hickleton Fair.*" by Mr. Knight.

To conclude with the Farce of

Lock and Key.

Brummagem, Mr. MUNDEN,
Cheerly, Mr. HOWARD, Ralph, Mr. HARLEY,
Capt. Vain, Mr. PENLEY,
Laura, Miss CUBITT, Fanny, Miss COPELAND.

To-morrow, Henry the Eighth

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE POOR IRISH.

English Opera House, Strand.

Mr. Mathews at Home.

This present Evening he will give his course of Lectures, on Character, Manners, and Peculiarities,

WITH ENTIRELY NEW ENTERTAINMENTS,

Under the Title of

The Youthful Days of Mr. Mathews

Part I.—From *nothing* to the age of *an hour and a quarter* —" First the infant, &c.—Parentage, childhood—From *One to Ten*---" Then the schoolboy with shining morning face: Preparatory seminary---Merchant Tailors' school---Public speeches---Latin, Greek, and English

Song—" SCHOOL ORATORS."

From *Ten to Fifteen*--Bound apprentice--WILKES Chamberlain of London—Dramatic mania of Master Charles Mathews---First attempt as an actor in public—Fencing—Interview with Macklin—The veteran's opinion of the qualifications of a Tragedian—Elopement from home—Fat traveller—Ap Llwyd, Esq.—Mineral waters—Stratford upon Avon—Shakspeare's Tomb—.

Song—" MARKET DAY."

Engaged for the Dublin Theatre.—

Careful carter—Ingenious porter—First appearance in Ireland—Splendid Wardrobe—Mr. Mathews ruffled—Old Hurst—Cox's Bull—Dicky Suett's Letter of recommendation—Hibernian friends—

Song---" An IRISH RUBBER at WHIST."

Part II.---Dublin Company—George Augustus Fipley, or the line of beauty—Mr Trombone---O'Flanagan.—*Port arms*—

Song---" Volunteer Field-Day and Sham-Fight."

Mr. Curran (*a portrait*)—Leave Dublin...Real Irish Ballad

" CROOSKEEN LAWN."

How to drive a Pig—Leave Ireland—Visit Wales...Mr. Mathews engaged for the York circuit...Interview with Tate Wilkinson, Esq. the wandering patentee...Buckle brushing, (Garrick's buckles.) Tate's antipathies...Rats...

Cross letters..York Roscius Overture from London...Mr. Mark Magnum..." All that sort of thing," and " every thing in the world" .....Arrival in the metropolis.

Finale—" A Musical Good Bye at York.

PART III. **STORIES:**

In which Mr. Mathews will take *Steps* to introduce the following Characters:

NAT.—Servant of all-work in a Lodging house.
SIR SHIVERUM SCREWNERVE—Guardian to Amelrosa--*second floor*
MONSIEUR ZEPHYR—French Ballet Master—(*first floor.*)
GEORGE AUGUSTUS FIPLEY—" A line of beauty"—in love.
AB LLEWELLYN AE-LLWYD, Esq.—*not* thin enough.
Mr, MARK MAGNUM—*non compos* lodger—next door.
MISS AMELROSA—in love with Fipley.

Mr. E. KNIGHT will preside at the Piano-Forte.

Boxes 5s. Pit 3s. Lower Gal. 2s. Upper Gal. 1s....Begins at 8.

E. Thomas, Printer, Denmark Court, Strand.